GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1915
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2016
Construction of Roads under PMGSY
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the roads constructed in Maharashtra under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) during the last two years have got damaged;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government keep 5 per cent cost of road construction under PMGSY as security deposit for monitoring quality of construction of roads and no other punitive actions are taken in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government for making provision of punitive action in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a)&(b): As reported by the State Government of Maharashtra, no roads under PMGSY have got damaged during the years 2014-15 and 2015-16.

(c)to(e): Rural Roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) are constructed conforming to the standards prescribed by the Indian Roads Congress (IRC) for rural roads and in accordance with the technical specifications of various items of work as laid down by IRC and incorporated in the contract documents.

All PMGSY roads are constructed by the State Governments with a design life for at least 10 years. As per PMGSY guidelines, maintenance of roads constructed under the programme is the responsibility of the State Governments and all road works are covered by initial five year maintenance contracts to be entered into along with the construction contract, with the same contractor, as per the Standard Bidding Document. Maintenance funds to service the contract are required to be budgeted by the State Governments and placed at the disposal of the State Rural Roads Development Agencies (SRRDAs) in a separate maintenance account. On expiry of this five year post construction maintenance, PMGSY roads are required to be placed under Zonal maintenance contracts consisting of 5 year maintenance including renewal as per cycle, from time to time.

To bring execution of the Programme to the desired quality standards, a three tier quality management mechanism has been institutionalized under PMGSY. First-tier of this mechanism is in-house quality control at Programme Implementation Unit (PIU) level. Objective of this tier is process control through mandatory tests on material at field laboratory and workmanship. Second-tier is structured as an independent quality monitoring at State level through State Quality Monitors (SQMs) in which provision of regular inspection of works has been envisaged for ensuring better quality. Under the Third-tier, independent National Quality Monitors (NQMs) are deployed by NRRDA for inspection of road works at random, not only to monitor quality but also to provide guidance by senior professionals to the field functionaries. The observations of NQMs are sent for action to the State Governments and Action Taken Reports (ATRs) are monitored at NRRDA.

As per the Programme guidelines, a provision of 0.50% (out of the 2.25 % Administrative Fund) of the funds released has been made exclusively for Quality Monitoring under 2nd Tier of Quality Assurance Mechanism. In case the defects are not rectified by the contractor within the specified time, the department rectifies the defects and cost is recovered from the contractor concerned.

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